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TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1909.

## **THINNING OUT THE HOUSE.**

From present indications there will  
 be many new faces in the next House  
 of Delegates. Returns prepared by  
 this paper, and published yesterday,  
 show that of the eighty-one Demo-  
 cratic nominees already chosen, only  
 forty-four are at present members of  
 the Assembly. Twenty-two are entire  
 strangers to the Assembly, while five-  
 teen have served in previous Legisla-  
 tures. So far as we have observed, no  
 reason has yet been assigned for the  
 many changes in the personnel of the  
 lower House. Certainly there was no  
 general movement afoot to oust the  
 advocates or opponents of particular  
 measures in the last Assembly. In the  
 absence of any general reason, the de-  
 feat of so many old members of the  
 House must be attributed to local  
 causes. The counties wanted a change  
 and quietly brought it about.

It is not necessary to state the the-  
 ory of rotation in office to see where  
 this policy of thinning out the House  
 is, in some cases, a distinct loss to the  
 State. When a legislator has remained  
 in the Assembly until he thinks him-  
 self infallible, it is high time to re-  
 move him. When, likewise, he has  
 shown himself dishonest or incompe-  
 tent, he should be consigned to politi-  
 cal oblivion in short order. But other-  
 wise his constituents and the State at  
 large lose by any change.

The reason for this political axiom  
 is manifest. Long service in the As-  
 sembly is necessary before a legisla-  
 tor can acquire influence and push im-  
 portant measures. For two or three  
 sessions a member is more or less of  
 a nonentity. His committee appoint-  
 ments are generally unimportant, his  
 speeches are enjoyed more by the gal-  
 leries than by the members, and his  
 vote is generally his sole asset. At  
 the end of that time, if fearless and  
 able, he begins to gain power and re-  
 ceives valuable appointments—only to  
 be shelved by his constituents in favor  
 of another untried man.

By this process the real machinery  
 of the House is thus placed in the  
 hands of a few landmarks, who con-  
 trol their respective counties and se-  
 cure their infallible return to the As-  
 sembly. These men, in large measure,  
 guide the newcomers, serve as chair-  
 men of all important committees and  
 legislate in accordance with their own  
 well-fixed ideas and plans. Under  
 these conditions the county which has  
 an honest and experienced legislator  
 cannot afford to remove him.

## **THE FOREIGN ELEMENT IN STRIKES.**

Our readers have doubtless observed  
 the prominent part played by foreign-  
 ers in the Pressed Steel Car Works  
 strike. Foreign women urged on their  
 husbands to violent measures, and all  
 the killed and injured strikers were  
 foreign-born.

In this particular case the strikers, we  
 think, have a just complaint against  
 the company, but this does not justify  
 the extreme measures some of them  
 have taken. The leadership of for-  
 eigners in the riots, however, brings  
 up one of the most serious problems  
 of American labor—the question of im-  
 migrant trade-unionists. The recent  
 immigrant who learns a trade and  
 joins a union finds in it chiefly a  
 weapon against his employer. He fails  
 to grasp the beneficial features of  
 unionism, and has an eye for its evil  
 tendencies only. The complex psy-  
 chology of trade unions falls to be  
 grasped and appreciated by him.

Hence he becomes a dangerous ele-  
 ment in the union, ever ready to stir  
 up strife and always anxious to lead  
 his fellow-workmen into strikes.  
 When a disagreement comes he will  
 not arbitrate, and will not endure  
 peaceable picketing. The strike be-  
 comes a riot and the disagreement a  
 vendetta. It is therefore natural that  
 the records show that most of the  
 violence committed in recent strikes  
 has been the work of these men.

The whole problem is a menace to  
 the life of trade unions and a standing  
 discredit to its legitimate functions. In  
 the same way, these frenzied foreign-  
 ers on strike are a danger to the  
 city and State. No wonder the wise  
 heads of organized labor have been  
 anxious, in self-protection, to curb  
 these newcomers. Some unions in the  
 East, especially those of well-paid  
 trades, try to bar the foreigner from  
 their midst until he has been enough  
 of trade conditions to learn the prop-  
 er sphere of the union. This solution,  
 however, has its difficulties, especial-  
 ly where a union is anxious to increase  
 its strength and to lessen non-union  
 competition. At the same time, it of-  
 fers hope of ultimate success in put-  
 ting an end to such excesses as are  
 daily witnessed around Pittsburgh.

## **ARE THEY ALL POTTS?**

Is the government of all the great  
 American cities rotten and graft-  
 ridden? This question may seem  
 absurd on its face, but it rises in the  
 mind of any one who reads the ac-  
 count of recent graft in Boston, dis-  
 cussed in the last issue of Harper's

Weekly. The stubborn facts remain  
 the same: every American city that  
 has been subjected to a searching  
 municipal investigation within the  
 last few years has been found a fest-  
 ering abscess of rottenness. Phila-  
 delphia led off the race, and showed  
 a state of affairs that led many to  
 believe it the worst city in the coun-  
 try. But when the San Francisco  
 graft cases were unearthed the Quaker  
 City seemed like a model town in  
 comparison. Then the Pittsburgh Coun-  
 cil was examined by a fearless prose-  
 cutor, and after a number of politi-  
 cians had been safely lodged behind  
 prison bars, that city was given the  
 palm of municipal degeneracy. And  
 now comes Boston—self-righteous Bos-  
 ton—whose scandals have been un-  
 earthed in part at least by a fearless  
 prosecuting attorney. Thus four great  
 American cities have been cleaned up—  
 or at least sponged off—in the last  
 few years, and conditions in all were  
 unthinkably bad. Against this list, so  
 far as we know, there is not a single  
 instance in recent years where the  
 administration of a great city has been  
 examined and found reasonably free  
 from graft and corruption. A guarded  
 and partial investigation of Baltimore  
 has disclosed conditions that indicate  
 equally bad conditions. New York  
 and Chicago—it is needless to say—are  
 recognized as hopeless.

This is a sorry spectacle. Such graft  
 and thieving, repeated in so many in-  
 stances, are not mere coincidences.  
 They must mean that our American  
 system of city government is inheren-  
 tly and fundamentally wrong. This  
 conclusion was reached long ago by  
 students of actual conditions, and was  
 paraded in the press; but it cannot  
 be too often impressed on the public  
 mind. Awakened public conscience is,  
 we think, the only sure way to purify  
 municipal government. The commis-  
 sion plan, admirable as it is, rests  
 solely upon the principle that the  
 people, once aroused, will support honest  
 government.

## **THE RECORD IN TRAVEL-SAFETY.**

The Burlington Railroad is rejoic-  
 ing in a new safety-record. During  
 the fiscal year just closed that com-  
 pany did not kill a passenger of the  
 millions hauled over its lines. This  
 record and a similar one made by the  
 Pennsylvania Railroad in 1908 are held  
 up as unprecedented in the history of  
 American transportation.

This record is, indeed, admirable, and  
 cannot, of course, be excelled by any  
 public carrier for the same period of  
 time. But it may be worth while to  
 observe that a Virginia railroad has  
 a record in this respect, besides which  
 the achievement of the Burlington  
 seems but a trifle. The Richmond,  
 Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad,  
 since it began operations over its first  
 section on January 23, 1837, has never  
 lost a passenger by accidental death.  
 It has hauled many millions of travel-  
 ers, in fair weather and in foul, in  
 war and in peace, and has never killed  
 a passenger. It may be objected, of  
 course, that this record is on a short  
 line, reaching only about 116 miles.  
 But when the tremendous traffic over  
 the company's rails is remembered, and  
 when the congested traffic of so short  
 a line is considered, the record is really  
 even more wonderful. The annals of  
 the world's transportation record nothing  
 like it.

This whole question of safety in  
 travel is well worth the attention of  
 any transportation company. The dam-  
 age suits and enormous cost of great  
 railroad accidents are weighty con-  
 siderations; but the unenviable repu-  
 tation which a company gains from  
 repeated accidents and the economic  
 loss to the community are not less im-  
 portant. Every device that ingenuity  
 can suggest, and every safeguard that  
 a wise management can throw around  
 its traffic is demanded by existing con-  
 ditions. The 619 deaths from railroad  
 accidents in 1908 are 619 lives that  
 might have been saved.

## **THE COMING OF SHAW.**

America is sincerely to be pitted  
 upon the threatened advent of George  
 Bernard Shaw, whose landing is fixed  
 for September 22. This ungracious  
 leonoclast will receive a spirited and  
 very welcome from the yellow press,  
 and will be welcomed with open arms  
 by a certain undesirable element of  
 pseudo-aristocratic New Yorkers. He  
 will spread his ideas wherever he goes,  
 and, at length, surfeited and satisfied,  
 will abuse the hosts who entertained  
 him, will consign all America to per-  
 dition, and will return to England.

But this will be only the beginning  
 of evils. A host of lesser Shaws will  
 rise up to imitate the Englishman, and  
 a flood of would-be problem plays  
 will be hastily written. We hope for  
 the best, but we fear the worst from  
 the contact of New York with Shaw.  
 Literary ability should of course be  
 given rein, but when coupled with the  
 "unconventionality" of Shaw and his  
 like, it should not be given needless  
 encouragement. Indeed, the less said  
 about the subject, the better. Such  
 literary men and such literary move-  
 ments owe their very existence to the  
 patronage of a cult which prefers won-  
 der to morality and sensation to sen-  
 timent. With this patronage removed,  
 Shaw would vanish in a year.

Custom and tradition likewise de-  
 crees that reasonable allowances be  
 made for the idiosyncrasies of genius.  
 But when the genius is of doubtful  
 quality and the peculiarities unbecom-  
 ing, the rights of a long-suffering  
 public must be maintained. The days  
 of freakish authors are properly past.  
 Wordsworth could no longer cut his  
 "Burke" with a dirty butter-knife, and  
 Byron would have to put on a collar.  
 When a writer deliberately violates  
 the ordinary decencies of society, un-  
 der present conditions, he is either  
 a fool or a sensation-seeker. As Shaw  
 has not been classed among the former,  
 the significance of his actions is  
 manifest. With neither the character  
 of Tolstol, nor the genius of Zola, nor  
 the dramatic power of Ibsen, he poses

# **Borrowed Jingles.**

TO ARMS! TO ARMS!  
 Bernard Shaw is expected to arrive in New  
 York by September 22. Daily Paper.  
 Mervin! Oh my! Oh dear!  
 Bernard Shaw is coming here!  
 Coming from the land of the free,  
 Let us quickly up and get  
 At our rifles and get  
 For if things are not just right  
 When this great man leaves in sight  
 There will be the end to pay  
 Down in old Manhattan Bay.

Get a pot of pure white paint.  
 Paraphrase our patron Shaw.  
 Mervin! Oh my! Oh dear!  
 Bernard Shaw is coming here!  
 Coming from the land of the free,  
 Let us quickly up and get  
 At our rifles and get  
 For if things are not just right  
 When this great man leaves in sight  
 There will be the end to pay  
 Down in old Manhattan Bay.

Hide the Shawnet from his gaze  
 Let the land be dark and dumb  
 Let our ancient shawl come home  
 To the land of the free  
 Let us choose a diet wile  
 Let us learn to our disgrace  
 To eat the Shawnet from his gaze  
 Let the land be dark and dumb  
 Let our ancient shawl come home  
 To the land of the free

We must get all things in trim  
 So that naught shall grate on him  
 Let the land be dark and dumb  
 Let our ancient shawl come home  
 To the land of the free  
 Let us choose a diet wile  
 Let us learn to our disgrace  
 To eat the Shawnet from his gaze  
 Let the land be dark and dumb

The Real Spender.  
 You don't seem anxious to meet this  
 millionaire here last season," ex-  
 plained the summer girl, "and he wouldn't  
 even buy an ice-cream cone. Could you in-  
 troduce me to some young chap who has  
 come to the beach with \$200 saved up?"  
 Kansas City Journal.

The New Butler.  
 City Boarder: "And you mean to say all  
 the time that you don't like me? How am I  
 to live?"  
 Farmer Rhetoric: "I thought about that.  
 You see, Betsy, about some of that new  
 stuff that's been going around lately, I  
 was thinking that if I didn't like the taste  
 very much I might let it go in the lamp,  
 by which I mean I will make a first-class  
 light." Chicago News.

What She Went For.  
 "So you think you'll go to the mountains  
 next year?"  
 "Yes; too much breeze at the seashore.  
 Always blowing the tops of the bridge  
 tables." Louisville Courier-Journal.

In Sauciness.  
 Wife: "Here's another invitation to dine  
 at the Flaties. What a bore those occa-  
 sions are!"  
 Hub: "Yes; even their dinner knives are  
 dull." Boston Transcript.

Drink to Match.  
 Soda-Fountain Attendant: "What flavor,  
 please?"  
 Young Thing: "Have you anything  
 in pink to match this gown?" Harper's  
 Weekly.

## **WESTERN PHILOSOPHY.**

Father Sullivan's Discussion of Women  
 Is Slightly Confusing.  
 It is not easy to make out exactly  
 what Father Sullivan is driving  
 at in his remarks on the modern woman.  
 He protests in what seems to be a  
 very emphatic manner against the  
 "highly educated, childless and house-  
 bandless sisterhood," yet in the same  
 breath he declares that women should  
 be educated to the point where they can  
 be of use to the world. He is clearly  
 for the first time in his life. Mr. Taft  
 evidently thinks that the example  
 of the "highly educated" women of  
 the East is a model for the women of  
 the West. Mr. Taft is certainly a  
 respectable, the practice of the  
 other Presidents of the United  
 States, and apparently the people of  
 this country are disposed to agree  
 with him.—Hartford Times.

## **MENTIONED IN PASSING.**

Among the American pastimes that have  
 outlived their popularity, West Point has-  
 ing been mentioned in a conspicuous place.—Brook-  
 lyn Eagle.

"Mattersman officials refuse privileges to  
 Hay and his advisers. The latter say  
 they hope to include the privilege of being  
 interviewed.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Besides being a descendant of royalty,  
 Uncle Henry Gassaway Davis enjoys the  
 distinction of having escaped the vice-  
 presidency of the United States.—Chicago  
 Tribune.

Imported art works must be 100 years old  
 to be admitted free of duty. The tariff act  
 protects our home industry of manufacturing  
 antiquaries against the pauper competition  
 of Europe.—New York Herald.

Beverly may be all right as a summer  
 capital, but it does not keep the nation  
 from sending its Oyster Bay did.—Cleveland  
 Plain Dealer.

## **SUPERMAN IN THE WEST.**

Wife-Hunting and Wife-Winning a  
 Problem in New States.  
 Bernard Shaw, following Schopenhau-  
 er, has named woman the pur-  
 sue, man the pursued in the race of  
 matrimony. The figures do not show  
 it. Facilities for pursuit in this coun-  
 try are particularly good since the  
 introduction of railways, yet the last  
 census records the balance of masculin-  
 ity in the Western States as still  
 greatly in excess of the rest of the  
 population is male, and in Wyoming,  
 Montana and Nevada the proportion  
 of females is as 4 to 10. A Cheyenne  
 dispatch from William E. Curtis to  
 the New York Herald states that the  
 bachelors who by advertisement,  
 by correspondence and by resort to the  
 application lists of school boards are  
 most zealous and active in the faded  
 past.

That they are becoming successful is  
 an evidence of the Western man's new-  
 found ability to win a wife. Young  
 women have hitherto been in a meas-  
 ure proof against the importunities of  
 the Western man, but now they are be-  
 coming the vanquished. The vanguard of civiliza-  
 tion too frequently resembles the camp  
 following of an army; it is largely  
 made up of men who have some irre-  
 sistible quality, and who are seeking  
 our vast sociological frontiers. It is  
 therefore an excellent sign that women  
 may now be persuaded to try the  
 West's advantages. It is a sign that  
 the community has outgrown the  
 "orderly" and "respectable" and is  
 the best effects of prosperity.—New York  
 Times.

## **LUCKY FILIPINOS.**

The Tariff Outcome Shows They Have  
 Advantage Over Americans.  
 Close on the heels of the signing of  
 the tariff law, President Taft received  
 a message of congratulation from the  
 acting Governor of Manila, in which  
 it appeared there was gratitude of  
 a kind that comes from the heart.

"The Philippine Commission," Gov-  
 ernment officials are quick to express  
 their thanks and appreciation on the  
 success of the years of devoted effort  
 which has resulted in the supreme  
 achievement of August 5, which opens  
 the markets of the United States to  
 the Philippine people. Allow me to  
 add my personal congratulations. The  
 obstacles to Philippine prosperity are  
 now removed, and we, your representa-  
 tives here, will try to do our part  
 in turning the privileges conceded to  
 the greatest advantage to the Philip-  
 pinos."

I shall always regret that 80,  
 000,000 of Americans were not given  
 the same cause for self-gratulation  
 that the Congress afforded the Philip-  
 pinos, through the influence of Presi-  
 dent Taft. But, alas! President Taft  
 has been engaged in the much more  
 beneficial work of securing the wel-  
 fare of the 80,000,000 who were of  
 whom we paid \$2 a head in 1907  
 cash.—Rochester Herald.

# **The Courts of Europe.**

By La Marquise de Fontenay.  
 Will Queen Victoria Offend Spain?  
 AUTHORITY announcements  
 in the leading English papers  
 to the effect that King Edward  
 has placed his name at the disposal  
 of the King and Queen of  
 Spain for use whenever they visit Lon-  
 don, and that not only is the young  
 Queen coming to England for a pro-  
 longed stay, but that she proposes to  
 spend much of her time in England  
 than heretofore, are not calculated to  
 endear her to the people of the land of  
 adoption. Indeed, it is an announcement  
 of a kind that is calculated to excite  
 consideration of the feelings of the  
 Spaniards, who are an extremely sen-  
 sitive people, that it is to be hoped  
 that an official denial thereof will be  
 published in the shortest possible or-  
 der, and that special pains will be  
 taken to make it so.

The Spaniards have always been ex-  
 ceedingly chauvinistic—that is to say,  
 prejudiced against everything foreign.  
 They are especially prejudiced against  
 anything that is not Spanish. They have  
 inherited from their Moorish an-  
 cestors, for there are few families in  
 Spain, in which the blood of the Moors  
 has not a strain of Berber blood in  
 their veins dating from the time of  
 the Moorish domination of the Iberian  
 peninsula. The Spaniards are a people  
 of a Spanish King had to suffer  
 through this national prejudice, which  
 indeed, had the effect of driving the  
 royal family into exile. It was only  
 after resigning the throne of Spain to  
 which the representatives of the people  
 themselves had elected him.  
 The Queen mother, Graciosa, to  
 whom Spain owes so deep a debt of  
 gratitude for the sagacity, the unself-  
 ishness and the sterling devotion  
 with which she administered the re-  
 gency during the sixteen years that  
 intervened between her husband's death  
 and her own accession to the throne, has  
 been in all her labors for the coun-  
 try by the unreasoning prejudice of  
 her son's lieges against her on account  
 of her foreign birth.

Queen Ena is an object of still  
 greater chauvin prejudice in the land  
 of her adoption. The fact that she  
 is a foreigner causes the Spaniards  
 of the dynasty to insist that her  
 conversion on the eve of her marriage  
 was not sincere, and that she was  
 never in order to secure a place on  
 the throne. Moreover, she is perhaps  
 more set in her foreign ways than  
 any other member of the royal family.  
 She has not as yet had sufficient time  
 to get entirely rid of them. She adheres  
 to many of her English customs, seems  
 to be a little out of the English re-  
 ligious, and she is not as yet com-  
 pletely at home in the land of her  
 birth.

When the late Duke of Pless, who  
 was a great huntsman to the Prussian  
 crown, died two years ago, consider-  
 able consternation was created by the  
 failure of the Kaiser to continue the  
 title of duke to his old friend's son.  
 The people of Prussia, who are a  
 rather superstitious people, and who  
 still prefer the land of their birth to  
 that of their adoption, were greatly  
 annoyed by the announcement in the  
 English papers that she is going to  
 spend more time in England than her-  
 efore with her children and that King  
 Edward has actually placed a perma-  
 nent residence at her disposal and  
 that of Don Alfonso for use as their  
 headquarters in England. It is certain-  
 ly a feeling against the English re-  
 sponder things even still more difficult  
 for her and also for her husband at  
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